

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a complete outrage and a clear example of the dangers of ever-increasing efforts at media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Sinclair is clearly ignoring it's obligation by improperly exploiting publicly owned airwaves to advance the partisan political agenda of its right wing owners. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Objectivity and truth are often the first casualties. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter to the local, as well as national populace.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.